

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-14 to 16-27 as follows.

1. (Original) A system for positioning dental X-ray apparatus, comprising
  - an input and output device for interactive control,
  - a storage area, in which at least one digitized dental X-ray image and information concerning the X-ray apparatus assignable to the digitized dental X-ray image are stored,
  - a computer interface, via which information can be interchanged with the X-ray apparatus,
  - means for selecting areas in the digitized dental X-ray image,
  - a processing unit which effects calculations based on the digitized dental X-ray image, the relevant information concerning the X-ray apparatus, and the selected area, in order to ascertain control data for the dental X-ray apparatus,
  - wherein the dental X-ray apparatus is controllable by said control data such that the selected area is covered when a dental X-ray image is made.
2. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~the previous claim~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the digitized X-ray image is comprises an individual image of ~~the~~ a patient.
3. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~the previous claim and comprising~~ claim 1, wherein the X-ray apparatus is of a type suitable for various types of image, characterized in that and wherein means for selecting the type of image are provided.

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4. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims and claim 1, further~~ comprising means for positioning a patient relatively to the X-ray apparatus, characterized in that wherein the control data is adapted to control said means for positioning the patient.
5. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the information concerning the X-ray apparatus ~~consists of the~~ comprises coordinates of the ~~a~~ trajectory which have been saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.
6. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the storage area includes~~ current and/or voltage parameters are saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.
7. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the storage area includes~~ information concerning the gray tones in the representation of the image are saved in relation to the digital X-ray image.
8. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes~~ computation for determining said control data which takes into account the type of image.
9. (Currently Amended).. A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes~~ computation for determining said control data which takes into account the purpose of diagnosis.

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10.(Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes patient-dependent data, such as including one of~~ size, weight, type, race, age, jaw shape, and/or previous treatments which are taken into account when determining said control data.

11.(Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized by claim 1, further comprising~~ means for automatically recognizing areas, particularly teeth, by pattern recognition algorithms.

12.(Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the selecting means are designed such that areas can be selected manually.

13.(Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 10, wherein the processing unit includes one of statistical and/or stochastic linkings of the individual parameters are carried out patient-dependent data.~~

14.(Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, further comprising~~ means are provided for making a series of radiograms at different positions starting from ~~the a~~ selected position.

15.(Original) Dental X-ray apparatus, characterized by a system as defined in any one or more of the previous claims.

16.(Currently Amended) A method of positioning ~~the one of an~~ emitter and/or a detector of a dental X-ray apparatus using an existing digitized dental X-ray image

and information concerning the X-ray apparatus and assignable to the digitized dental X-ray image, wherein comprising the steps of:

- loading and displaying at least one digitized dental X-ray image, is loaded and displayed,
- determining coordinates of those areas are determined, with reference to the digitized dental X-ray image, which are to be depicted in another X-ray image,
- loading information concerning the X-ray apparatus, is loaded,
- carrying out computation is carried out on the basis of the digitized X-ray image, the relevant information concerning the X-ray apparatus, and the selected area, in order to ascertain control data which controls the dental X-ray apparatus such that the selected area can be depicted in a dental X-ray image.

17.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~the previous claim 16~~, characterized in that wherein the digitized X-ray image is comprises an individual image of the patient.

18.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 16, characterized in that wherein the type of image to be made by the X-ray apparatus is selected prior to the ~~third~~ loading step.

19.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 16, characterized in that wherein the control data is adapted to control means for positioning the patient relatively relative to the X-ray apparatus.

20.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~the previous claim 16~~, characterized in that wherein the information concerning the X-ray apparatus comprises coordinates of the trajectory which have been saved in relation to the

digitized X-ray image, and a segment of the trajectory is calculated on the basis of the selected area.

21.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 16, wherein the computation step includes one of~~ current and/or voltage parameters which are saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.

22.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 16, wherein the computation for determination of~~ the control data takes into account one of the type of examination and/or the purpose of diagnosis of the patient.

23.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 16, wherein the patient-dependent data, such as including one of~~ size, weight, type, race, age, jaw shape, and/or previous treatments, are taken into account when computing the control data.

24.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 16, wherein the computation step includes automatically recognizing areas, particularly teeth, are automatically recognized one of manually by pattern recognition algorithms.~~

25.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 16, wherein the areas can be determined manually.~~

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26.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 23, wherein one of~~ statistical and/or stochastic linkings of the individual parameters patient-dependent data are carried out.

27.(Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, further comprising the step of making a series of radiograms are made at different positions starting from the selected position.

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